

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: May 22, 2006

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on May 12, 2006

FROM: Richard C. Karl, Director
Superfund Division

TO: Bharat Mathur
Acting Regional Administrator

Norman R. Niedergang
Acting Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities and training/conferences:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Settlement Reached, F & M Mafco, Inc., Harrison, Ohio

On May 12, 2006, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) filed a joint Administrative Complaint and Consent Agreement and Final Order against F & M Mafco, Inc., Harrison, Ohio. This action alleges violations of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Section 312. F & M Mafco, Inc., failed to submit the Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory form to the State Emergency Response Commission, the Local Emergency Planning Committee, and the local fire department with jurisdiction over the facility for calendar year 2004, by March 1, 2005. F & M Mafco, Inc. has agreed to pay a cash penalty of \$3,627. F & M Mafco, Inc. will have 30 days to pay the penalty.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

Administrative Complaint Filed, Millennium Inorganic Chemicals, Inc., Ashtabula, Ohio

On May 9, 2006, the Agency filed an Administrative Complaint against Millennium Inorganic Chemicals, Inc., Ashtabula, Ohio. The complaint alleges violations of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)

Section 103 and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Section 304. On January 14, 2006, at 11:47 a.m., Millennium Inorganic Chemicals, Inc., Ashtabula, Ohio, had an 88-pound release of chlorine. Chlorine is a hazardous substance under CERCLA and an extremely hazardous substance under EPCRA with a reportable quantity (RQ) of 10 pounds. This release was about nine times the RQ. The person in charge of the facility notified the National Response Center (NRC) on January 15, 2006, at 1:58 a.m. or about 2 hours and 11 minutes after the release. The owner/operator notified the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) on January 15, 2006, at 2:04 a.m. or 2 hours and 17 minutes after the release. The owner/operator of the facility notified the Local Emergency Planning Committee on January 15, 2006, at 2:10 a.m. or about 2 hours and 23 minutes after the release. Additionally, the facility submitted the written follow-up report to the SERC and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) on February 7, 2006, or 24 days after the incident. On September 16, 2005, the Agency resolved a prior Administrative Complaint against Millennium Inorganic Chemicals, Inc. The proposed penalty in the second complaint is \$181,350. Millennium Inorganic Chemicals, Inc. will have 30 days to respond to the Complaint.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

Certificate of Appreciation, Joliet Army Ammunition Plant (Load-assembly-packing Area) and Joliet Army Ammunition Plant (Manufacturing Area) Superfund Sites, Joliet, Illinois

On May 3, 2006, the Army hosted an event to honor the 10 years of service of the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant (JOAAP) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB), a group of local stakeholders who represent the community's interests in the environmental cleanup of the arsenal. An installation tour to observe cleanup activities and ongoing reuse efforts and an award ceremony was conducted for the RAB members to recognize the RAB's loyalty and hard work. Superfund Division Director Rick Karl presented members of the RAB with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of each member's outstanding volunteer efforts on the board and commitment to the environmental cleanup of the JOAAP.

Remedial actions have been ongoing at the 2 National Priorities List (NPL) sites that make up JOAAP since 1999. A lot of teamwork between the U.S. Army, the U.S. EPA, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA), and the community has resulted in the successful cleanup of the arsenal and its conversion to two state-of-the-art industrial parks, a county landfill, a veterans cemetery, and a national tall grass prairie.

Cleanup constructions activities are scheduled to be completed in 2007. Cleanup costs are expected to reach approximately 110 million dollars.

Contact: Diana Mally (312-886-7275)

TRAINING/CONFERENCES

River Rouge Water Festival, Dearborn, Michigan

On May 4, 2006, On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) James Justice, Jon Gulch and Brian Schlieger represented the U.S. EPA at the annual River Rouge Water Festival. This annual festival is attended by a number of schools from Detroit and surrounding areas. Students were presented with information on U.S. EPA's role in responding to and cleaning up hazardous waste and oil spills. Photographs from actual responses and hands-on materials were provided to show the hazards faced by responders and how responders protect themselves. The presentation was concluded with a tabletop demonstration of an oil spill cleanup. A total of 7 schools and over 200 students attended the U.S. EPA presentation throughout the day.

Contacts: James Justice (734-692-7687)
Jon Gulch (734-692-7686)
Brian Schlieger (734-692-7681)

Oil Pollution Act Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises, Cleveland, Ohio

During the week of April 10, 2006, Sheila Calovich, Alex Tzallas (OPRS) and Joe Fredle (ERB) conducted Oil Pollution Act (OPA) Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises in Cleveland and Lorain, Ohio. Facilities that were visited include BP Lorain Terminal, Buckeye Cleveland Terminal, and BP Cleveland Terminal.

BP Cleveland Terminal and Buckeye Cleveland Terminal successfully completed the exercise and are exempt from unannounced drills for three years. BP Lorain Terminal was not successful because their oil spill response contractor could not provide recovery equipment in the required amount of time. The Cleveland Hopkins airport was also visited to evaluate their current Facility Response Plan.

Contact: Sheila Calovich (312-353-1505)

Oil Pollution Act Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises, Evansville, Indiana

During the week of April 24, 2006, Sheila Calovich and Alex Tzallas (OPRS) conducted Oil Pollution Act (OPA) Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises in Evansville and Mount Vernon, Indiana. Facilities that were visited include Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company (SIGECO), Consolidated Barge and Grain, Transmontaigne Evansville Terminal and Countrymark. Consolidated Barge and Grain and Transmontaigne successfully completed the exercise and are exempt from unannounced drills for three years. SIGECO failed the drill because their oil spill response organization was not able to respond in the appropriate amount of time. Countrymark failed the drill because they did not deploy containment equipment.

Contact: Sheila Calovich (312-353-1505)

Meeting, Spill of National Significance Exercise Regional Collaboration, Evansville, Indiana

On April 25, 2006, Sheila Calovich and Alex Tzallas (OPRS) attended the Spill of National Significance (SONS) meeting that took place in Evansville, Indiana. The SONS exercise is being planned for June of 2007 and has become a major undertaking for those States which will be participating. It is imperative for those States to develop an exercise which will be seamless in its execution. The States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Kentucky attended the meeting in order to ensure that all exercise events which might affect the contiguous borders of those States will be uniform in nature. A scenario consists of an earthquake on the New Madrid fault line. Environmental agency representatives identified oil pipelines that would be affected during an earthquake event. Future meetings are scheduled throughout the Summer of 2006.

Contact: Sheila Calovich (312-353-1505)

Freshwater Spills Symposium, Portland, Oregon

Several people from Region 5 attended the Freshwater Spills Symposium in Portland, Oregon from May 1-4, 2006. The symposium included four one-day courses on spill response techniques, as well as over 75 presentations on the spectrum of issues related to freshwater spill response. Attendees included Federal, State, and local agencies, as well as industry representatives. On-

Scene Coordinator (OSC) Josie Clark helped to instruct a one-day class on Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Technique. Ann Whelan helped conduct an afternoon of talks relating to the hurricane response. OSC Michelle Jaster gave a presentation on her experience at the Black Lagoon Great Lakes National Project Office project.

Contacts: Josie Clark (312-886-0130)
Michelle Jaster (734-692-7683)
Ann Whelan (312-886-7258)

Conference Calls, Intra-Agency Committee, Preventing and Managing Contaminated Sediments

This committee was formed by a memorandum from Benjamin Grumbles, Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water (OW), dated March 22, 2006. The committee is to address comments in the Office of Inspector General's (OIG's) Draft Evaluation Report on U.S. EPA's 1998 Contaminated Sediment Management Strategy (CSMS). For a summary of the report, including a link to full report, see: http://www.epa.gov/oig/reports/2006/20060315-2006-P-00016_glance.pdf. The committee, or a designated office, is to provide for the oversight and evaluation of the Agency's contaminated sediment management strategy, and should update the Strategy to reflect accomplishments made on managing and addressing contaminated sediments and incorporate additional actions that Agency program offices should take.

OW has the lead for this endeavor; Sharon Frey, Office of Science and Technology, is the chair of this group. Participants on the Committee represent each of the national program offices, Office of Research and Development (ORD) labs, Great Lakes National Program Office (Marc Tuchman), and Region 5 (Bonnie Eleder).

The first conference call was held on April 6, 2006; additional calls were April 13, April 27, and May 4. To start, the committee is currently identifying the status for each of the activities U.S. EPA committed to in the CSMS. This information will then be used to develop an action plan laying out U.S. EPA's response to the OIG recommendations. The committee has a goal of completing a draft action plan in June 2006.

Contact: Bonnie Eleder (312-886-4885)

Region 5 States/U.S. EPA Sediment Forum, Chicago, Illinois

The second Region 5 States/U.S. EPA Sediment Forum call of 2006 was held on April 13, 2006. Represented were the Indiana

Department of Environmental Management, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, the Great Lakes National Program Office, and U.S. EPA Region 5. Agenda items included a summary of the March 13-14, 2006, Natural Resource Damages/Sediments Symposium: "Sediments Cleanup and NRD Restoration - Effective Coordination Among Trustees and Remediation Managers"; the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO) Sediment Focus Group; and an update on the Ashtabula River and Harbor Great Lakes Legacy Act remediation project. The call ended with the informative "Around the Region" whereby updates were provided on sediment sites of interest and other projects or issues. The purpose of the Sediment Forum is to promote cross program and interagency coordination and communication in addressing contaminated sediment sites.

Contact: Bonnie Eleder (312-886-4885)

cc: Susan Bodine (OSWER)
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